



**Department of
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News Release

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VA Executive Honored with Spirit of Leadership Award

WASHINGTON – Craig Luigart, chief officer for the Department of Veterans Affairs' Office of Health Information, has received the Janice K. Mendenhall Spirit of Leadership Award for outstanding leadership and dedication to enhancing VA performance through advances in technology.

“We are very proud that Craig has been selected for this exceptional honor,” said Dr. Robert A. Petzel, VA under secretary for health. “Craig’s selection for this award is well deserved as his contributions to VA and quest for excellence have positively impacted health care delivery and services to Veterans.”

The Janice K. Mendenhall Spirit of Leadership Award is awarded to government or industry executives who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and made a continuing contribution over a sustained period of time to the government IT community. It is the highest award the American Council for Technology-Industry Advisory Council can give to a member of the IT community.

Craig Luigart is a disabled Veteran and began working at VA in 2005. He is a former career Navy officer and distinguished naval aviator.

“I am truly honored and humbled to receive this award,” said Luigart. “I am a strong advocate for the private and public sector team, and the synergy this brings to our health care mission and my fellow Veterans.”

Luigart graduated cum laude with a Master of Science degree in Management Information Systems from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. He received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Louisville in Kentucky.

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